

Joining the Compact

The Greenway Compact Program is a voluntary partnership between the Greenway Council and local communities to work toward Greenway goals, help build a network of connecting routes, and use the Greenway Guides to improve their local and regional surroundings.



To join the Compact and receive Greenway benefits, communities need not make sweeping revisions to their plans and codes. Municipalities can approve a local law with three basic provisions:

1. Adopt the Greenway Compact Program, agreeing to work with neighboring communities and other Compact members to implement projects that are compatible with the goals and policies outlined in *Greenway Connections*;
2. Amend local zoning and subdivision regulations with a short cross-reference, stating that subsequent planning review interpretations and discretionary actions should be guided by *Greenway Connections*; and
3. Agree that, whenever appropriate, any new or amended land use regulations should be consistent with the Greenway Compact Program.

Communities should also appoint a Greenway contact person or committee to coordinate Greenway activities and act as a liaison to other Compact members. As additional guidelines become available or amendments are considered to *Greenway Connections*, communities can accept or reject the proposed changes. The flexibility and hands-on nature of local decision making is thereby protected, yet strengthened with the mutual support of nearby and regional neighbors. Again, the program is entirely voluntary, sustained by continued cooperation and a record of successful projects and improvements, not by any new requirements.